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GOVERNMENT TERMS IHRC REPORT UNFAIR

PY202105 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 20 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] (NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS)--The Inter-American Human Rights Commission's (IHRC) conclusions are "neither objective nor balanced as they are made up of constant and indiscriminate criticism of the government, including the judicial branch", the government says in its official response to the IHRC's report on the situation in Argentina based on a visit the commission made here last September.

In the IHRC's report, "positive facts are systematically silenced or minimized and, instead, all unfavourable elements are accentuated", the government says in the official response issued simultaneously at government house and the Foreign Ministry yesterday afternoon. And in some instances, the response adds, there is "real intrusion into internal affairs of state, going beyond the commission's jurisdiction."

The government says in its official response that it wants to express its "serious observations and energetic objections" to the IHRC's report, and, on this basis, "categorically rejects the commission's conclusions.

"The stance could not be otherwise in the face of a document that presents very serious defects," it adds.

The general tone of the report is "incriminating" when it should maintain the balance expected of a document produced by an international body, "and not an appreciation charged with subjectivities of emotional and political origin," the government says.

It says the report is based on such incorrect generalizations as terrorism not occurring in democratic nations or countries where there is economic and social progress, which are aptly refuted by everyday reality around the world.

The government also says the report uses factors that distort reality, such as individual unproven charges, in order to come to conclusions over the violation of particular rights.

"This is translated into negative sentences against the government...doubly serious when based on such weak factors", it says.

The report ignores Argentine reality in the last decade, the government says, pointing out that two fundamental aspects need special mention, that of the "state of necessity" that obliged the armed forces to take action against subversive terrorism and the "development" the country has experienced since.

The government explains that the problem of human rights in Argentina cannot be considered without first taking into due consideration the situation which had been created as a result of subversive terrorism. It contends that the entire "Argentine nation, its people, its institutions, moral and cultural traditions, and its spiritual and material patrimony" had been affronted by terrorist subversion. It claims that this was not a circumstantial or sporadic attack but a planned offensive which had its roots in a massive international terrorist strategy, and whose effects were felt in many other countries. In Argentina, the wave of terrorism was launched against a peaceful and hard-working society which suddenly was plunged into chaos and destruction.

The Argentine Government says nobody is ignorant of the fact that both in this country and in other parts of the world this terrorist aggression has claimed victims through vandalism, kidnappings, and other acts of violence.

The Argentine rebuttal says the country has gone through a tremendous crisis, and the government has taken upon itself the task of reconstructing it [the country], and today can openly prove that its conduct has been clean and based on a true vocation for democracy.

GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO ACCEPT 200 CUBAN REFUGEES

FY182158 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 18 Apr 80 p 13

[Excerpt] Brasilia--The Brazilian Government has decided to accept 200 Cuban refugees, and it needs only to settle the final details with the Peruvian Foreign Ministry so that they can be brought to Brazil. Brazilian Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro said that despite the Brazilian Government's good will, it will not be possible "to take in a larger number of refugees."

UNION LEADER 'LULA' PLACED UNDER HOUSE ARREST

FY191419 Paris AFP in Spanish 1222 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Sao Paulo, 19 Apr (AFP)--The former president of the Sao Bernardo metalworkers union, Luis Inacio Da Silva, alias Lula, was placed under house arrest this morning according to information provided by reliable sources. He was removed from his post by the government last Thursday on charges of "inciting an illegal strike" by the metalworkers of Sao Bernardo on the outskirts of Sao Paulo. Sao Paulo political police chief Romeu Tuma said last Friday that Lula could be liable to charges under the National Security Law, and his remarks during the past few days were being investigated.

Tension has continued rising among metalworkers since Lula and Benedito Marcilio, president of the Santo Andre metalworkers union, were removed from their posts. There were, in fact, violent confrontations between strikers and military police last Saturday [as received] in front of the Sao Bernardo metalworkers union building in the wake of the announcement of the dismissals. Some 30 metalworkers were arrested and an undetermined number of workers, including three journalists, were injured.

Brazilian Army units, equipped with light machineguns, were posted at the accesses to Sao Bernardo last night. Disorder could flare up again today in Sao Bernardo where metalworkers are to hold a general assembly.

Following his dismissal, Lula told his fellow workers: "If I am arrested, the strike must continue until our victory is assured, until our demand for job security is met. The police will never intimidate the 140,000 metalworkers of Sao Bernardo."

Union Leaders Fired

FY181216 Paris AFP in Spanish 0156 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo, 17 Apr (AFP)--The Brazilian Government dismissed here today the leaders of the steelworkers unions of the Sao Paulo industrial belt "for instigating the strike" that began 17 days ago and appointed interventors to replace the dismissed union leaders.

Through a decree, the government intervened in the unions of Santo Andre, Maua, Ribeirao do Pires, Rio Grande da Serra, Diadema and Sao Bernardo do Campo. The last is the stronghold of powerful union leader Luis Inacio da Silva, nicknamed Lula.

TURBAY HOPEFUL OF 'BLOODLESS SOLUTION' TO CRISIS

PA192358 Paris AFP in Spanish 2319 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Bogota, 29 Apr (AFP)--The Colombian Government continues attempting to find bloodless solutions to the hostage problem which are humanitarian, legal and decorous, Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala said here tonight in a speech broadcast over radio and television stations to the nation. We will continue persisting in our efforts to find a prompt solution and are certain that we will not lose our patience or serenity, added the president.

We have the peace of mind which comes from knowing that we are not acting arrogantly or without factual basis, but with simplicity and understanding, said Turbay. The president spoke for the first time to the nation on the subject of the Dominican Embassy, which has been occupied for 53 days. He said that for us there are no contradictions between the fulfillment of our national obligations and our international commitments.

Therefore, he said, Colombia has throughout its democratic history been able to sign numerous conventions to guarantee human rights as well as to protect the honor, life and property of diplomats accredited to our government. Finally, the president affirmed that we do not ignore the justifiable anguish of the hostages, their families and their governments. We are experiencing the same sentiments aggravated by the immense committment imposed by the handling of this affair, he said.

M-19 NEGOTIATOR RESOLUTE ON RELEASE OF PRISONERS

PA181929 Paris AFP in Spanish 1900 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Bogota, 18 Apr (AFP)--The hooded M-19 guerrilla staged an unexpected incident at the conclusion of the 17th round of talks on the issue, by shouting that the seditious organization will only give up the hostages in the Dominican Embassy in exchange for the release of Colombian political prisoners.

After the meeting, which lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes, the M-19 mediator addressed the Colombian and foreign journalists staked out at the embassy and told them of the decision of the M-19 which has occupied the embassy since 27 February. The hooded woman emphasized that the rebel cell will not leave the embassy without the comrades imprisoned in a Bogota jail who are now being court-martialed for rebellion.

Today's negotiations, like all the others, was held in a van parked outside the embassy.

Government Issues Communique

PA190002 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 2335 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Communique No 28 released by the presidency's press and information secretariat: read by announcer]

[Text] The Presidential Press and Information Secretariat hereby reports that a meeting was held today between the government representatives, Dr Camilo Jimenez and Dr Ramiro Zambrano, and the female delegate of the subversive 19 April Movement. Venezuelan Consul General Francisco Pacheco Santander served as witness. The meeting began at 1205 and adjourned at 1338. During the talk, the representative of the embassy attackers aired views on next month's visit to Colombia by the Inter-American Human Rights Commission. The next meeting will be agreed upon through the usual channels.

M-19 Proposes Summit in Panama

PA191912 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The subversive 19 April Movement [M-19] today proposed for the first time since it began its clandestine armed struggle in 1974, to put down its arms after a discussion at the very highest level on the country's main social problems.

The idea was expressed in a letter addressed to President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala from Jaime Bateman, top leader of the M-19. The letter is in the hands of newsman German Castro Caycedo, who was allegedly held captive for 36 hours by the M-19.

The proposal calls for the holding of a meeting in Panama to be attended by the top leaders of the M-19, President Turbay, of course, and a wide range of Colombian political dignitaries, including Carlos Lleras Restrepo, Dario Echandia, Misael Pastrana Borrero, Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, Belisario Betancur and Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa.

The meeting, which would take place on 1 May, would permit a solution of the problem existing at the Dominican Embassy within 30 minutes, Castro Caycedo told newsmen at the newspaper EL ESPECTADOR, following his arrival at the newspaper offices last night after he had been some 2 hours away from Bogota in the company of the top M-19 members.

In statements to his colleagues at EL ESPECTADOR, Castro Caycedo said insistently that he had not been kidnapped, but had instead gone to a prearranged meeting with the guerrilla high command.

Castro Caycedo did not appear too tired. He apparently had access to important M-19 documents by order of Jaime Bateman. It was not a kidnapping, the newsman insisted. He has already spoken extensively with military authorities.

According to an EL ESPECTADOR newsman, Castro Caycedo disclosed that the holding of the 1 May summit, which would also be attended by Alvaro Valencia Tovar, Jose Joaquin Matallana, J. Emilio Valderrama, Gilberto Veira and Gabriel Garcia Marquez, has already been approved by Panama strongman Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera.

Government circles maintained absolute silence regarding the circumstances involved in the Castro Caycedo case and the surprising proposal from the M-19, one of whose cells oocupied the Dominican Embassy in Bogota 54 days ago.

OAS Commission To Mediate

PA191913 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The government announced today that beginning Monday the OAS Human Rights Commission will begin mediating on the situation of the Dominican Republic Embassy in Bogota which began 53 days ago.

The report was disclosed today by Government Minister German Zea Hernandez. Though not going into detail, the minister confirmed that the OAS Human Rights Commission which will be in Colombia tomorrow will try to find a reasonable way out of the drama at the Dominican Embassy.

The commission members, led by American Tom (Farrer), will begin mediating on Monday, Zea Hernandez reported.

Costa Rican Consul Released

PA192041 Paris AFP in Spanish 2030 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Bogota, 19 Apr (AFP)--Costa Rican Consul Rolando Blanco was released this afternoon by the 19 April Movement group which had held him hostage in the Dominican Embassy for 53 days. The Costa Rican consul quickly left the embassy in his own car escorted by a military vehicle.

The extremists are still holding 19 persons, including 11 ambassadors, 2 charges d'affaires, 4 consuls and 2 Colombian journalists.

Turbay Briefs Newsmen

PA190254 Paris AFP in Spanish 0046 GMT 19 Apr 80

[By Farid Camel]

[Excerpt] Bogota, 18 Apr (AFP)--Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay admitted implicity today that the crisis of the refugees in the Dominican Embassy were remained unchanged at the same time that the talks resumed to solve the delicate problem and before the unfavorable results were known.

In a brief statement to newsmen, the chief of state stressed that the situation is no better or worse than before. He recalled that he will speak at length on the issue during a prerecorded radio televised speech to be broadcast to the nation tomorrow, Saturday.

Turbay considered the security measures which have been adopted in the past few hours by the government on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the 19 April Movement guerrilla organization, whose commando unit has been occupying the Dominican Embassy since 27 February, to be normal.

Apparently referring to the rebel commando unit's announcement about possible surprises on 19 April, the Colombian chief of state remarked: I hope not. The country is calm at present except for the embassy problem. I do not know if they are preparing any actions, but if they are, the government will be duly ready to counter anything that might occur.

Turbay's statements were made shortly before he left for the neighboring region of Melgar, where he will meet with his ministers to make an analysis of the embassy situation and his government's response to the recent Amnesty International report about human rights violations in Colombia.

M-19 ASKS TURBAY TO SET UP 'AUTHENTIC DEMOCRACY'

PA191324 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0508 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Bogota, 18 Apr (EFE)--The 19 April Movement guerrilla group which is occupying the Dominican Embassy in Bogota has asked the Turbay Ayala government to "establish an authentic democracy in Colombia."

Pablo Garcia, one of the top ideologues of the guerrilla group, warned that the M-19 actions will cease only "when the tortures, the raids and the persecutions against the political prisoners and the people in general have ended in Colombia." Garcia who has occasionally signed the clandestine pamphlets of the M-19, invited the Liberal government of Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, who has been in office for the past 20 months, to establish an authentic popular democracy "so the reprisals will end."

The statement was released on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the M-19 on Saturday. The M-19 emerged in 1970 when former dictator Rojas Pinilla was defeated in the 1970 presidential elections. From that moment, the M-19 proclaimed itself to be the "armed wing of the National Popular Alliance" (ANAPO), the political party led by Rojas Pinilla which became one of the country's most important political forces.

Ideologue Garcia also said the M-19 will stop its struggle when human rights are fully respected in Colombia and when a real battle in favor of the popular classes is honestly waged "because we are a nationalist movement."

Dr Carlos Toledo Plata, another top ideologue of the guerrilla movement, said the M-19 will continue its struggle "until there is an end to tortures and the monopolies do not control the national wealth."

In his proclamation from the underground, Dr Toledo explained the emergence of the M-19 in Colombia, indicating that "power can never be reached" through honest elections "so we decided to begin this struggle in favor of the people."

Toledo Plata, a former militant of ANAPO, has become one of the most wanted M-19 activists in Colombia and all America. His whereabouts continue to be a complete mystery.

"In its first action, the M-19 stole the sword of liberator Simon Bolivar as a symbol of the struggle for freedom and it will continue to hold it until an authentic democracy is established in Colombia," he added.

EL TIEMPO REVEALS IDENTITIES OF EMBASSY OCCUPIERS

PA192239 Paris AFP in Spanish 1722 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Bogota, 19 Apr (AFP)--The newspaper EL TIEMPO today had a scoop on the identity of the 15 [as received] terrorists who have been occupying the Dominican Embassy here for the past 53 days. The report has coincided with the celebration, today, of the 10th anniversary of the creation of the 19 April Movement [M-19].

The morning newspaper explains that intense and patient research by its newsmen has permitted the establishment of the identities of the terrorists and points out that the mysterious Commander Uno is 32-year-old Rosemberg Pabon Pabon, better known as Pacho. Pabon has a bachelor's degree in social sciences.

According to EL TIEMPO, Pabon was born in Cali. His mother is living, he has three brothers and is married to teacher Lucelly Ramirez.

The hooded guerrilla who has participated in the 17 meetings with the government to negotiate the release of 20 hostages--18 of whom are diplomats--is Carmenza Cardona Londono, alias Norma Luz Stella. She is 1.5 meters tall, heavy-set, brunette, long dark hair, small waist, well-developed breasts, prominent hips, big and full eyebrows and a big mouth with thick lips.

Another guerrilla is Gladys Diaz Ospino de Amortegui Ramirez, alias Carmenza, who is a medical doctor. She entered the Dominican Embassy on 27 February as a special guest. She is married to Dr Guillermo Arturo Amortegui Ramirez.

Jorge Ivan Rojas Sanchez, alias El Negro, is another guerrilla. He is a mechanic. He will be tried in absentia by a court-martial. Other guerrillas are: Guillermo Elvecio Ruiz Gomez, who faces murder charges, and Maria Clemencia Sandoval Garcia, alias Susana or Martha, who is also an absent defendant in the court-martial against the M-19.

Engineering student Pompilio Aragon Nora, alias Pilo; Clelia Maria Garcia Menao, alias Mariela; law student Freddy Ramos, alias Jorge or Pinina; and Jose Yamel Riano, alias Manuel or Diego, who is in charge of M-19 finances, are other guerrillas at the Dominican Embassy.

The remaining guerrillas are: Luis Francisco Otero Cifuentes, Manuel Osvaldo Leyva Osorio, Antonio Navarro Wolff and Consuelo Yvonne Izquierdo.

EL TIEMPO publishes photographs of each of the guerrillas.

EL ESPACIO REPORTS GUERRILLAS' MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

PA181806 Paris AFP in Spanish 0246 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Bogota, 17 Apr (AFP)--The newspaper EL ESPACIO reported today that the present standstill of the negotiations regarding the hostages in the Dominican Embassy here could be attributed to two cassettes. The newspaper said that these recordings might have allowed consultations between the guerrillas who took over the embassy and their imprisoned top leaders for the first time since 27 February.

According to the news item, the courier was the International Red Cross delegate, Armi Kobel [name as received]. This emissary, who had been authorized by the government to carry out therapeutic tasks in the embassy and to visit the imprisoned 19 April Movement leaders, delivered the first cassette from Commander Uno to the La Picota jail.

There the guerrilla command listened to a detailed report on the 16 meetings held up to now between the guerrillas and the government and learned of the present state of the negotiations.

According to EL ESPACIO, their answer probably was that the top leaders should be released and transferred to the Dominican Embassy, where they would discuss the final details of the ransom money for the hostages and the M-19 members' departure from the country.

The last two dialogues with the government took place on Monday and since then there has been tight secrecy regarding a future meeting of the parties.

EL ESPACIO also stated that military sources have reaffirmed the government's decision to avoid the use of force to clear the Dominican Embassy, where 18 diplomats and 2 journalists have remained captive for the past 51 days.

GOVERNMENT DELAYS PLEBISCITE PLANS, ACCEPTS DIALOGUE

PA191543 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Government Minister Carlos Feraud Blum has said the solution of the political problem should not only include the possibility of a constitutional reform but the need to have coordination and cooperation among all the government branches as the only way to enable the government's positive action. The reorganization of all the organs of the jurisdictional functions must also be included in the solution. [sentence as heard] The government minister made his comments during a news conference after the meeting held by the Ecuadorean president and the mediating commission made up of former Presidents Galo Plaza, Andres Cordoba and Gonzalo Cordero and Quito Cardinal Pablo Munoz Vega. The commission proposed a return to the bicameral legislative system as a solution to the conflict. The government minister said:

[Begin recording] The president has in no way ruled out a plebiscite. The government continues to favor the holding of the plebiscite. It has merely suspended the calling of a plebiscite until it receives a concrete formula for a solution which would make the holding of a plebiscite unnecessary. The president has accepted a dialogue. He is waiting for the formula that has been widely commented on. The government will study the formula as soon as it is received. This suspension of the call for a plebiscite must not delay the solution of the political problem. [end recording]

Legislators Discussing Formula

PA191545 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] There was intense dialogue yesterday among the legislators who are working for a specific formula that will establish a bicameral legislature to solve the political problem that is worrying the country. The meetings in the legislative palace will continue over the weekend to find a consensus on the constitutional reforms. The legislators have remained in touch with the members of the mediating commission which will convey to the president the legislature's reply.

During a meeting between the commission members and the leaders of the legislative blocs, the possibility of suspending the special period of legislative sessions that begins on Monday was brought up. This decision has to be made by the majority of the Chamber. It would be aimed at facilitating the drafting of the bill on constitutional reforms. At this point, the legislators are debating the composition of the future Senate. There are numerous proposals on how it should be composed.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REJECTS CONCEPTS IN GRANMA EDITORIAL

PA181547 Paris AFP in Spanish 0436 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Quito, 17 Apr (AFP)--The Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry has expressed its disagreement with the concepts contained in an editorial published on 14 April by GRANMA, official organ of the Communist Party of Cuba, in which it criticizes the right of asylum and the Andean Group.

The GRANMA editorial says the Andean Meeting in Lima resembled the mountain that labored hard to give birth to a mouse, or, in other words, that it put forth a great deal of rubbish about the right of asylum, the Vienna convention and other such things.

Expressing his disagreement with the concepts contained in the editorial, the under secretary for political affairs of the Foreign Ministry said those concepts seem to impose unacceptable limitations on the fundamental principles of international law regarding the right of asylum, the protection of human rights and actions of a humanitarian nature underaken by nations like the Andean Pact members countries within a climate of mutual respect.

The official restated Ecuador's unshakeable position of defending those principles and stressed that the Ecuadorean Government will continue to take action, be it directly or through the Andean Council or other international bodies, in every case requiring reasonable solutions to matters affecting human rights and international solidarity.

PCE FAULTS PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHING STATE BODIES

PA142102 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Apr 80

[Text] Guayaquil--The Communist Party of Ecuador [PCE] has described the setting in motion of important bodies like the Tribunal of Constitutional Guarantees and the National Development Council without the full number of members as established in the Constitution as ridiculous, a violation of the supreme law of the republic and a veritable exclusion of the representatives of the workers and the universities.

A PCE press bulletin states that on 8 April the tribunal of constitutional guarantees was established with only 6 of the required 11 members. The tribunal was constituted without any effort to appoint the workers' representatives.

According to the bulletin, the political crisis under which this high-level state organization has been installed is a maneuver incompatible with the tribunal's important goal of guaranteeing enforcement of the Constitution, the duty assigned to it by that fundamental charter.

The bulletin adds that the national development council was also organized without the full number of members and, once again, without making any effort to appoint the representatives of the workers and of the universities.

GUERRILLA GROUP BRIEFLY SEIZES COLOMBIAN CONSULATE

PA182358 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Four hooded men who identified themselves as members of the 18 October Movement Astra Revolutionary Action Command [Movimiento 18 de Octubre Comando de Accion Revolucionaria Astra--M18-x] broke into the Colombian Consulate in Quito this afternoon. The hooded men, who expressed solidarity with the 19 April Movement which is currently occupying the Dominican Embassy in Bogota, took over the consulate and delivered a statement to the Colombian consul demanding that he publish it in the local press. The M18-s broke into the consulate just before 1700 when there were 14 persons inside, including employees and patrons.

Our source, who was there on business and whose identity we will not reveal, said that the hooded men forced them to remain inside the office for 15 minutes while they fled. The emblem they left is green and red and belongs to the movement.

Colombian Ambassador Luis Gonzalez Barros admitted that four persons had occupied the consulate but said they were not carrying weapons at the time of the attack.

FIRST SECRETARY OF EMBASSY IN CUBA LEAVES FOR HAVANA

PY181651 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] (Jorge Pozo Bernales), first secretary of the Peruvian Embassy in Cuba, returned to Havana yesterday after holding talks at the Foreign Ministry in connection with the Cuban refugees. Although (Pozo Bernales) made no statements, it has been reported that he returned to Havana carrying precise instructions from Peruvian Foreign Minister Arturo Garcia y Garcia. As he did last Monday when he returned from Havana, (Pozo Bernales) merely indicated to reporters that he had nothing to say.

GOVERNMENT SILENT ON REPORT OF MINISTER AMONG REFUGEES

PA200437 Paris AFP in Spanish 0343 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Havana, 19 Apr (AFP)--The Peruvian Embassy in Havana today refused to confirm the rumors from Madrid to the effect that Cuban Transportation Minister Guillermo Garcia is among the refugees still at the Peruvian Embassy. We have no knowledge that the minister in question is among the refugees, acting Peruvian Charge d'Affaires Armando Lecaros told AFP.

FOREIGN MINISTER WELCOMES CUBAN REFUCEES

PY182221 Paris AFP in Spanish 1834 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Lima, 18 Apr (AFP)--Peruvian Foreign Minister Arturo Garcia y Garcia this morning expressed his satisfaction at the arrival of the first group of refugees in this capital and announced that refugees will continue to arrive until the quota of 1,000 set by Peru is fulfilled.

In a brief statement to more than 100 national and foreign journalists, he said that between 100 and 200 refugees will arrive today. In reply to a question, he said that 99 persons have arrived, and that they apparently make up 24 families. He added: "They are all in very good health, from what I could see in their faces when they left the plane."

After pointing out that most refugees come in family groups, he said that upon arriving in Costa Rica they decide to which country they want to go. He said: "In our case, we interviewed them and picked them with their consent."

He reported that there are now less than 3,000 Cuban refugees still wating at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana for the appropriate time to voluntarily leave Cuba. He noted that groups of refugees are being taken to Costa Rica because it is easier to take them to San Jose. From there they will be taken to those countries that will receive them. He said: "Costa Rica will be the distribution center for the Cubans who are leaving Havana."

REFUGEES EXPLAIN DESIRE TO LEAVE CUBA

PY202131 Paris AFP in Spanish 0534 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Lima, 18 Apr (AFP)--A survey published here today revealed that even though they acknowledge that in Cuba there is work, education and health for everyone, the refugees at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana want to leave the country because they either disagree with the "system" or because they have relatives abroad.

The morning daily CORREO today published a number of interviews by its special correspondent in Havana, Daniel Cumpa-Leon, who has talked with persons who have been authorized by the Cuban Government to leave the country and have been provided with the documents necessary to do so.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES CHARGES MADE BY GRANMA

PA201735 Paris AFP in Spanish 1702 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Lima, 20 Apr (AFP)--A high-ranking spokesman of the Foreign Ministry has rejected charged made by the newspaper GRANMA yesterday against Arturo Garcia y Garcia, Peruvian foreign minister.

An item entitled "Brazenness of the Peruvian Foreign Minister," published by the newspaper yesterday, criticized the Peruvian foreign minister for attending the welcome offered the first refugees arriving 2 days ago in Lima and for having refused political refugees asylum during the military coup against President Salvador Allende when he was ambassador in Chile.

The Foreign Ministry source pointed out that on that occasion, the present Foreign Ministry gave refuge to many political figures of that nation, including several ministers of the Popular Unity regime.

GRANMA has tried to create a false image of the Peruvian foreign minister, since the newspaper cannot be ignorant of these facts and even less dismiss the fact that, at the request of Cuban Ambassador to Chile Mario Garcia Inchaustegui, Foreign Minister Garcia had personally accompanied all the Cuban personnel who were in Chile to the door of the plane, the spokesman added. This happened on 12 September 1973 to guarantee the security and integrity of the personnel who, under the circumstances, were threatened, he concluded.

FINANCE MINISTER LEAVES FOR SOVIET UNION

PY210125 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0056 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Lima, 20 Apr (LATIN)--Peruvian Economy and Finance Minister Javier Silva Ruete has left for the Soviet Union, where he will make the final arrangements for a loan to finance the Olmos hydroelectric project in northern Peru.

In a press conference he held before leaving, Silva Ruete reported that the overall investment required by the project is $1 billion, $700 million of which will be invested during the first stage. He indicated that Peru believes that the initial phase will last from 3-4 years and that the project will be completed in a decade. He said that Peru has asked the Soviet Union for part of the $700 million needed for the first phase, but he did not specify the amount.

The minister added that other countries, which he did not name, believe that the project is very important for Peru's agroindustrial development and have promised their support. The hydroelectric project will be built in Chiclayo, in a place called Olmos, 850 km north of Lima.

The feasibility studies have taken approximately 8 years, having been launched during the administration of the late Gen Juan Velasco Alvarado.

IMF OFFERS $32 MILLION FOR 1980-81 FINANCIAL PROGRAM

PA190223 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Panama has entered into an agreement with the IMF which has placed at its disposal $82 million in support of the 1980-1981 financial program.

Fund officials said cooperation was being extended to Panama, which after several years of serious difficulties is beginning to reap the product of efforts to normalize the nation's economic situation.

They added that through that effort, the deficit levels have been reduced, as well as the external debt in relation to the (GNP). Private investments are picking up and the growth rate has increased.

It was added that notwithstanding this progress, there are still pressures bearing on the balance of payments situation, and additional efforts are required to reach satisfactory employment and production levels. For this reason, the IMF will continue its assistance to Panama.

MEMBERS OF CUBAN COMMUNITY APPEAL TO U.S. GOVERNMENT

PA192248 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 19 Apr 80 p 30

[Statement issued by members of Cuban community in Panama on 14 April 1980]

[Text] WE the undersigned, members of the Cuban community in Panama who participated in the dialogue with the Government of the Republic of Cuba in Havana in December 1978 to seek the release of persons held prisoner for crimes against the security of the state and to bring about the reunification of Cuban families:

CONSIDERING that since the aforementioned dialogue the Cuban Government has been complying with the agreements reached during its course, having released over 3,600 prisoners and having authorized these and other persons imprisoned for the same purpose to leave the country, along with their families, and has also permitted members of the Cuban community of various countries to visit Cuba, which made it possible for over 100,000 Cubans to visit their country and the relatives and friends who reside there;

CONSIDERING that given the delay with which the U.S. Government has been granting visas to the aforementioned prisoners, former prisoners, their relatives and other persons who have requested visas to travel to that country, a considerable number of persons in Cuba are awaiting the opportunity to obtain said visas in order to join their relatives residing in the United States;

AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

1. The unfortunate incidents which have occurred in the past few months at the embassies of Venezuela and Peru in Havana, where some persons have forcibly entered the embassies as a means of procuring entry into those countries, which has caused a lamentable loss of human lives, a loss that could have been avoided by logical behavior that would discourage such practices and encourage such persons to submit their applications and wait a reasonable period of time for the corresponding visas to be granted.

These events led the Cuban Government to permit free access to the Peruvian Embassy in Havana, after which some 6,000 persons entered the area and, given the small size of the area, are practically piled on top of each other while awaiting visas to enter any country, particularly the United States, where most of them have relatives.

2. The Government of Cuba has officially expressed its willingness to permit anyone who wishes to do so to leave the country, thereby promoting the process of reunification of the Cuban families. It has expanded on the agreements reached in the dialogue in this regard, because it has set no limits.

WE REQUEST that the U.S. Government, in implementation of its human rights policy, as well as other governments which would like to demonstrate their good will, permit the Cubans who are at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana to enter their respective countries, by officially and publically stating, as soon as possible, the quota or number that they can receive, thereby contributing to a prompt solution to this sorrowful and delicate situation. Moreover, to avoid similar situations, the necessary mechanisms should be established in order that in the future their representatives in Havana may process requested visas without interposing unnecessary obstacles that could encourage this kind of deplorable conflict which does not contribute to the maintenance of the relations that should exist among civilized persons and countries.

Respectfully and with the certainty that with God's help this appeal will be duly considered, we are:

[Signed] Enrique Puentes, Sotero Fundora, Jose M. Rodriguez, 19 Apr 80.

CULTURAL WORKERS REJECT U.S. MILITARY MANEUVERS

PA191428 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The Cultural Workers Front has charged in this capital that the upcoming U.S. military maneuvers in the Caribbean are directed against Cuba, Nicaragua and the Salvadoran revolutionaries.

In a communiqye released today, the Cultural Workers Front said that those exercises coincide with provocations against Cuba at the Peruvian and Venezuelan embassies in Havana, events which have been distorted by a large-scale propaganda campaign launched by the United States.

The communique adds that the military deployment and the propaganda campaign are designed to distract public attention from U.S. interventionist maneuvers in Central America, particularly El Salvador, a country in which the revolutionary struggle has acquired extraordinary impetus.

The Panamanian cultural workers expressed their solidarity with the Cuban revolutionary government in defense of its sovereignty and noted the great parade that the Cuban people will stage tomorrow.

COSTA RICA

CARAZO URGES CUBA TO END SUSPENSION OF AIRLIFT

PA182301 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2156 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Statements by President Rodrigo Carazo in Nuevo Arenal regarding suspension of air-bridge of evacuation of Cubans from Peruvian Embassy in Havana--presumably live]

[Text] I take advantage of the opportunity offered me by Radio Reloj to officially inform the Costa Rican people that at the last moment, as the last airplane was bringing 188 (?refugees from) Cuba, we were told that the Cuban Government would not allow a single other refugee to come to Costa Rica.

I have emphatically stated for some time that our position is that of keeping the door open for refugees in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana to obtain their freedom through Costa Rica.

I urge the Havana government not to let minor and circumstantial political matters stand in the way of this effort being carried out by the free people of America to allow people to have the freedom to choose their own paths.

I do not believe there can be any political motivations that could lead a government to close the doors of freedom to those who, seeking it, have resorted to the unconventional step of crowding together, in numbers close to 11,000, in the small territory of the embassy of an American country in Havana.

I urge the Cuban Government to allow the people who are in that embassy to come to Costa Rica, go directly to whatever country they desire and obtain the freedom they desire without any obstacles.

I believe that we men can settle our political differences as long as we can face each other on equal terms. But the people who are crushed together in a small space such as an embassy, have no means of defense against the political power of the government which closes its doors to them at any time.

I urge the Cuban Government, without any consideration other than that of freedom for everyone, to permit those refugees to come to Costa Rica. We do not care whether or not they come here directly. The important thing is for them to go to whatever country they wish, for them to be given a chance. The important thing under the present circumstances is that no obstacle be erected because of propaganda interests or of the problem of prestige. The political interests of a group in government or the political efforts of a nation do not count in the face of men who want freedom.

Let it be clearly known that freedom is an aspiration which multiplies and grows vigorously. No one can repress it because freedom has no limit in men's aspirations, just as air has no limit as regards the physical need of bodies. Freedom is vital to the soul and souls which seek freedom cannot in any way be repressed. They cannot in any way be restricted and anyone who tries to do this will only manage to stimulate greater desire for freedom.

I urge the Havana government to allow the refugees in the Peruvian Embassy to leave, realizing that as they gain their freedom the bases for respect of human rights will be established.

I urge the Havana government not to attempt to use circumstances to justify [its actions] in what is a fundamental and vital problem, that it not use pretexts to prevent our making room for those who seek freedom.

They will always have freedom here. If Cuba does not want the refugees to come to Costa Rica, [I urge it] to allow them to go somewhere else, but that it not seek to restrict them forever with regard to what represents the sublime, highest aspiration of mankind--the aspiration to be free.

Official Request to Cuba

PA202101 Paris AFP in Spanish 2033 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] San Jose, 20 Apr (AFP)--The Costa Rican Government officially asked the Cuban Government today to reestablish tonight the airlift between Havana and San Jose in order to evacuate the Cuban refugees in the Peruvian Embassy, Carlos Aguilar, Cabinet chief at the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry, announced here.

BREAK OF CONSULAR RELATIONS WITH CUBA RUMORED

PA201353 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Costa Rica may break off consular relations with Cuba. Reliable reports state that the Costa Rican Government is considering the possibility of breaking off consular relations with Cuba in the wake of the Fidel Castro government's decision to eliminate the shuttle to Costa Rica for evacuating Cuban refugees from the Peruvian Embassy.

Up to this time, Costa Rica has only maintained relations at consular level and has not had diplomatic relations with the Castro regime.

According to the report, our country's government may end consular relations with Cuba as a consequence of the Cuban decision of suspending the departure of refugees to Costa Rica. However, this decision has not yet been made. President Carazo and Foreign Minister Calderon Fournier are considering this possibility. However, no official decision has been made yet nor has the report been confirmed officially.

It was learned from a reliable source that the break of consular relations with Cuba would depend on negotiations or conversations that may be established with the Havana government regarding the possibility of keeping the shuttle to Costa Rica going.

Recall of Consul

PA201633 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1548 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Havana, 20 Apr--Costa Rican Consul General in Cuba Oscar Vargas Bello left for San Jose on Sunday. He was recalled by his government. Vargas Bello left his home on Friday afternoon and went to the Spanish Embassy where he remained until the moment of his departure. Both the act of leaving the Costa Rican Consulate and his trip home were ordered by the government of President Rodrigo Carazo Odio.

It is now known if the departure of the consul general is connected with a break of relations, which were only maintained at the consular level, but Vargas Bello left accompanied by his wife and daughter.

On Thursday morning, the day the last shuttle between Havana and San Jose was made, a confrontation took place at the airport between Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Relations Ricardo Alarcon and Carlos Aguilar, head of the Costa Rican chancellery.

Thus there is a new belligerent front between Cuba and another Latin American country, although this bridge in Cuban-Costa Rican relations had almost been broken when Havana decided to suspend the shuttle flights to Costa Rica.

CONSUL DENIES REPORTED ATTACK ON HIS LIFE

PA201634 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Costa Rican Consul General in Cuba Oscar Vargas Bello denied in Havana that he had been the victim of an attack as was reported by some foreign news agencies. It was also confirmed that Vargas Bello and his relatives are in good health and he is carrying out his normal activities as diplomat.

EL SALVADOR

MINISTER ANNOUNCES OPENING OF 6,500 JOBS

PA201728 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 18 Apr 80 pp 5, 29

[Excerpt] More than 30 million colones will be invested in the program developed by the Public Works Ministry to create 6,500 jobs. Some 1,270 already exist. This was announced by Minister Jorge Alberto Morales Guillen, who added that the program costs will include the payment of salaries and purchase of the projects that will be executed across the nation.

The official explained that the program is a result of the joint efforts of the Salvadoran Government and assistance granted by the Agency for International Development and seeks to benefit the humblest strata.

"With the 6,500 job openings, which will be created within the next 30 days, the unemployment due to the nation's situation will decrease and the situation itself will improve gradually," stated Morales Guillen.

He added that once these job openings come into existence and are occupied by their incumbents, the personnel of the Public Works Ministry and its offices at national level will be increased, reaching a total of 23,500 positions. "The new positions will mean an expenditure of 2 million colones a month," he explained.

DUARTE PREDICTS NORMALIZATION OF FOREIGN RESERVES

PA182332 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 18 Apr 80 pp 4, 9

[Excerpt] Jose Napoleon Duarte, engineer and member of the government junta in charge of the economy, said yesterday that the foreign exchange market will be normalized within a matter of days, since the Central Reserve Bank expects to receive the equivalent of the sale of 1 million quintals of coffee.

The country has been afflicted with a weak foreign reserve situation. However, there is no problem with currency or with the balance of payments, Duarte said.

The problem which had caused a drop in the cycle is that in the past our exports were paid for in advance. In other words, a deposit was required. However, for reasons known to all, coffee began to be sold in January, February and March, [presumably without deposit] and since payments are made after delivery, it will not be necessary to wait for the foreign exchange to come in and there may be a delay of from 20 to 30 days, because 1 million quintals of coffee have been sold.

In other words, one-third of the 1979-1980 harvest has been sold, but we are also selling coffee from the previous harvests which was being stored in Europe and the United States. We must note, he said, that the foreign exchange resulting from the sale of the previous harvests has already been spent.

Moreover, it is necessary to act with great caution, he said, to avoid distorting prices on the market. Therefore, it is believed that the level of foreign exchange will be restored gradually within a short period of time. Moreover, loans in dollars are being negotiated with the Central American Bank of Economic Integration and with various international funds such as the International Development Bank and the IBRD.

TEACHERS HOLD RALLY TO REINFORCE DEMANDS

PA192109 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1302 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The National Association of Salvadoran Teachers held a rally yesterday morning in Dignidad Nacional Plaza at the Education Ministry. The meeting, scheduled for 0900, was held to express support for all sectors of that ministry which are fighting for ministry compliance with a program of demands presented to education authorities.

WIDESPREAD VIOLENCE REPORTED THROUGHOUT COUNTRY 17, 18 APR

PA190306 Paris AFP in Spanish 2305 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 18 Apr (AFP)--Political violence has continued to cause bloodshed on Salvadoran soil, where over 60 persons have been killed in the past 3 days, it was reported today.

According to official reports, there were 24 violent deaths in various parts of the nation between Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.

Among the most recent victims of violence in El Salvador is Rodolfo Chamorro, the mayor of Quezaltepeque, 28 km north of this city, who was killed last night by a group of unidentified persons. Chamorro was a member of the leftist Nationalist Democratic Union. His assailants looked like peasants, it was reported.

Also on Thursday afternoon, according to an army report, three National Guardsmen and four guerrillas died during a clash in the suburbs of San Vicente, 55 km to the east of San Salvador. Also in San Vicente, states the army report, five leftist guerrillas were killed today by military troops in another confrontation. The other armed clash, between military patrols and members of the 28 February Peoples League, occurred in Villa Victoria, Cabanas Department, in northern El Salvador. Three rebels died, the report states.

In addition, a bulletin of the armed forces press committee states that five persons--a married couple and their three children--were killed in the suburbs of Zacatecoluca by a member of the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc during an attempt to attack and seize a rural town. This incident caused commotion in all of southern El Salvador, the military note states.

Meanwhile, LA PRENSA GRAFICA states in today's editorial that well-known Venezuelan terrorist Carlos Ilich Ramirez may be in El Salvador. The newspaper does not give its source, but it comments that the Salvadoran guerrilla groups appear to be advised by Carlos in their subversive activities. The version has not gained strength at the moment and many circles have considered it speculative.

The wave of political violence that is shaking El Salvador appears to have moved to the interior in the past few days, where armed clashes between the guerrillas and the army are systematically repeated, while the capital appears to be slowly returning to normal.

UNIDENTIFIED PLANES STRAFE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

PA182033 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1820 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] We are repeating a news report that is important to you. Unidentified planes flew over and strafed the installations of the National University today at approximately 1100 [1700 GMT].

The foregoing information was provided by official sources who added that immediately after the incident was reported, several air force planes took off in an attempt to determine where the airplanes came from and, if possible, how to locate them.

We will provide more information later about this incident, which has caused great alarm among the students and residents of the area.

TWO BOMBS EXPLODE IN UNIVERSITY 19 APR

PA192332 Buenos Aires Latin in Spanish 2024 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Apr (LATIN)--Two bombs exploded this morning in the Economy School of the University of San Salvador, causing a fire which gutted two schoolrooms and one storeroom, according to the authorities. The two explosions were followed by dense columns of smoke and caused panic in the university where some 20,000 students were in class.

The university also houses antigovernment organizations, including the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses, which is composed of the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc, the United Popular Action Front, the 28 February Peoples Leagues and Nationalist Democratic Union. The fire caused by the explosions destroyed furniture, files, documents and teaching materials, according to an Economy School spokesman. There were no reports of any victims.

LP-28 LEADERS 'KIDNAPPED' BY ARMY TROOPS

PA200341 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Troops of El Salvador's military-Christian Democratic regime have kidnapped Amelia Noemi (Ostorga) and (Tadis) Aldana, leaders of the 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28[in the eastern part of the country. Denouncing the incident, the LP-28 asked the junta to release the female leaders immediately and halt the repression of the Salvadoran people.

LA CRONICA'S INSTALLATIONS BLOWN UP 18 APR

PA181530 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1510 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Early today several unidentified individuals blew up the installations of the opposition newspaper LA CRONICA. This is the third time in 3 years that the paper's installations have been blown up. On the two previous occasions, the paper's offices were burned by elements opposed to the paper's line.

Chief Editor Jaime Suarez Quemain has told this agency that "the company's accountant has estimated the damages at about $16,000."

According to Suarez, the most damage had been done to the furniture, windows and walls, while the machinery had not been heavily damaged.

"We expect to be back in circulation today." Suarez added. Napoleon Gonzalez, the paper's owner, is abroad.

At least three other bombs exploded this morning in the Salvadoran capital, but is is not yet known what damage they have caused.

Paper Blames Government

PA201501 San Salvador LA CRONICA DEL PUEBLO in Spanish 18 Apr 80 p 4

[Excerpt] Once again, the eternal enemies of the people have attacked LA CRONICA.

Today at 0320, the installations of the newspaper were violently shaken by a powerful bomb that caused great damage to the building and machinery.

It is unnecessary to ask who the perpetrators of the criminal act were because the people know very well who they were: the same people who assassinated Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero; the same people who during the days of the genocide General Romero set fire to LA CRONICA last year; the same people who want to make the people all think alike and are irritated by all attempts to think, express oneself or act in a way that does not totally agree with the government; and the same people who have bathed the streets and avenues of our country in blood.

Government is increasingly becoming absolute and smites the citizen who at any moment can become its next victim. Death is becoming increasingly frequent. The city has become a guarded alley and traveling through it on any road between your home and work can be considered a dangerous activity that could lead to death after having been tortured and left with your eyes hanging out of their sockets. Repression has reached such uncommon levels that in our poor and sad nation, the mere act of living can become a grave crime.

It is against this background of terror that we must place this new attack against a voice that relentessly remains at the service of truth, justice and liberty.

What the fascist forces will never understand is that the voice of the people cannot be silenced. It has never been extinguished anywhere on the globe, not even in the times of Nazi Germany or in Stalinist Russia. A good example of this is our country, where voices can be silenced--and some are--but newspapers cannot silence the voices of their surroundings. They reflect what is happening here.

SEIZED DOCUMENTS REVEAL STUDENT PLANS FOR ACTION

PA202239 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 18 Apr 80 p 2

[Excerpt] A number of actions such as student strikes and the occupation of institutes and other official and private education centers had been planned by the leaders of the Movement of Revolutionary High School Students, Revolutionary Action of High School Students, Salvadoran Revolutionary Student Brigades, Association of Secondary School Students and NLP [not further identified] according to documents seized at the "Gen Francisco Menendez" National Institute, the National Guard reported yesterday afternoon.

A spokesman of this organization's leadership said that the occupation of the "Gen Francisco Morazan" National Institute yesterday afternoon for several hours, and the holding of students and teachers, was part of the operations planned during a meeting held by the student organizations on 22 March at the Menendez Institute.

An analysis of the documents seized at dawn the day before yesterday by the guard and other security corps, it was reported, have given clues to the action agreed to at the meeting, which was attended by delegations from government institutes and schools, colleges and other private schools of San Salvador. The guard reported that the minutes of the meeting contain evidence of who attended and the channels used by the organizations which occupied the Menendez Institute to summon the meeting.

CORRDINATING BOARD DENOUNCES U.S. 'EXTERMINATION' PLOT

PA181359 Paris AFP in Spanish 0414 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Apr (AFP)--Facundo Guardado, of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc; Mario Aguinada Carranza, of the National Democratic Union; Alfredo Parada, of the 28 February Peoples Leagues; and Alberto Ramos, of the United Popular Action Front, who are members of a delegation sent by the Revolutionary Corrdinating Board of the Masses to several European and Latin American countries, today charged here that the military junta of El Salvador and the United States have conceived a plan to exterminate more than 300,000 Salvadorans and that the plan, reportedly, is already being implemented in that Central American country.

According to them, the extermination plan is a result of a concept held by the U.S. State Department which, they claim, was expressed by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to the secretary of the Labor Party of the Netherlands in the following terms: El Salvador is a train going at more than 200 km per hour. If we get in front of it, it will destroy us. Therefore, to stop it we have to blow it up [dinamitarlo], the members of the delegation said during a news conference today.

They noted that they have received the support of political parties--some of them in the government--in Finland, Sweden, Denmark, the FRG, Belgium and Italy, countries they visited during their tour through Europe.

They also charged that some of the 5,000 mercenaries being trained in Guatemala have begun entering Salvadoran territory. The objective of these mercenaries in El Salvador is to carry out the extermination plan. Their actions, which reportedly will be backed by members of the regular army, reportedly will have a clandestine framework.

The members of the Coordinating Board said in spite of the repression, the victory of the popular forces is at hand because the unity of all opposition forces has been achieved through the Revolutionary Democratic Front.

REVOLUTIONARY DEMOCRATIC FRONT NOMINATES NEW PRESIDENT

PA200424 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE 19 Apr 80 p 1, 2

[Text] "This event is another sign of the maturity of the forces that compose the front. These forces, setting aside sectarianism, intolerance, dogmatism and real but secondary differences, are uniting around a common project where the two great currents, the revolutionary and the democratic, merge." This statement was made yesterday by Enrique Alvarez Cordoba, who has been nominated president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR], an event that EL INDEPENDIENTE reported and celebrated. The ceremony took place yesterday at 1050 in the auditorium of the Law School of the University of El Salvador.

At 1050, the master of ceremonies of this important political event announced the arrival of the National Executive Council of the new group composed of the popular masses. The approximately 5,000 persons who completely filled the auditorium lifted their left fists as a revolutionary greeting and then broke into applause and watchwords.

Juan Chacon of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc; Juan Jose Martell of the Social Christian Peoples Movement (MPSC), formerly known as the Christian Democracy's Sector of Popular Tendency; Leoncio Pichente of the 28 February Peoples Leagues; Manuel Franco of the Nationalist Democratic Union; Jose Luis Buitrago of the National Revolutionary Movement; Saul Villalta of the United Popular Action Front (FAPU) and Enrigue Alvarez Cordoba of the Independent Movement of Professionals and technicians of El Salvador entered through the main door of the auditorium and went to the platform from where they were to preside over the solemn event.

"Our national flag, with its blue and white colors, is braver and more honorable when it is hoisted by the people...the sacred notes of our national anthem are stronger and more sacred in the lips of those who want liberty. For this reason, companeros, we are going to salute those symbols of the fatherland we are glorifying at the level of greatness and honor with our blood and our ideals...these symbols do not belong to the dominant class. They are not the exclusive property of the oligarchs and their henchmen... these symbols belong to the people." These statements were made by the master of ceremonies. Immediately thereafter the notes of the national anthem were heard. "Let us proudly greet the fatherland," all those present said.

When the notes that resulted from Canas' inspiration were concluded at 1105, two green helicopters of the armed forces flew over the university campus seveal times. Two minutes later, the noise of two combat planes was heard, only to be silenced by the shouting of revolutionary watchwords that filled the room. At 1106, one of the members of the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses who was on watch at one of the windows of the auditorium told the master of ceremonies: "The enemy is trying to get inside the university...they have surrounded us and they are shooting...." There was some nervous unrest among those present, but the person who until that moment had been managing organizational matters shouted: "No one move. Remain calm. We are safe here." Immediately thereafter, the event was formally opened. It was announced that "Companero Enrique Alvarez Cordoba, president of the Executive Council of the Revolutionary Democratic Front, will speak."

Following the opening speech, Mr Alvarez Cordoba moderated the speeches that followed.

GUATEMALA

CUBAN ATTACKS ON REFUGEES CALLED 'TRIVIAL, FALSE'

PA190135 Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTROAMERICA in Spanish 8 Apr 80 p 3

[Editorial: "Ten Thousand Slaps to the Face of Castroism"]

[Text] The reasons that the government of Fidel Castro has given at the international level as an explanation and--according to it--as a justification for the world scandal which is the presence of 10,000 persons who sought asylum at the Peruvian Embassy in order to abandon the country, are trivial, false and make the regime look a little ridiculous.

The Castroist government says that those who sought asylum at the Peruvian Embassy are vagrants, people who do not want to work, fools, antisocialists, criminals and trash.

When a person arrives at a certain country as an exile, he must face a new environment which, as friendly as it may seem, will always be foreign to him. He will be forced to work maybe double what he would in his country of origin in order to survive. Consequently, it is difficult to believe that a person who makes a desperate attempt to seek asylum, gets it and arrives in a country where he will have to work very hard, is a vagrant.

It is possible that some of the people who sought asylum in Havana do not want to work to support a police and oppressive state such as Fidel Castro's, but their desire to work in freedom is seen in their desire to go to another country as exiles and seek work there.

The Cuban Government, through the official newspaper GRANMA, also said that the 10,000 persons at the Peruvian Embassy are criminals. This has been said at the Foreign Ministry level in Lima and Caracas that even if this is true, it would reveal that Castroism has failed because it would be anomalous for such a large number of persons to be criminals and not be tried by courts in any given country at any given time.

The fact that the Cuban Government says that they are "antisocialists" may reflect the truth better and this also demonstrates the disaster of Castroism. These people are "anti-socialists," meaning that they are against the "socialism" they know and of which they have been victims, the "Castroist socialism."

Regarding the qualifier "fools" that the Castro government uses in GRANMA to refer to the refugees at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana, one must ask: Who is calling whom a fool? In replying to this one must ask: Can a person be described as a "fool" because he is looking for his freedom?

In commenting on this matter with the director of this newspaper, REUTER correspondent Antonio Edelman Monzon emphatically said: On the contrary, the search for freedom is an expression of intelligence, of the human being who becomes aware of his dignity and of the rights that he has as a person. We comment here that Fidel Castro and the members of his government should be the ones called "fools" for using such insubstantial and baseless justifications.

The collapse of Castroism, which is already in sight, will tell who are truly the fools: those who established an oppressive regime in Cuba or those Cubans who clearly saw their situation and took the steps, even though running very dangerous risks, to obtain their freedom by fleeing Castroism.

NUMBER OF SALVADORAN REFUGEES CREATES PROBLEMS

PA202329 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Apr 80

[Text] Salvadoran refugees continue arriving in Guatemala, desperate because of the civil war in their country. The border customs posts are confronting serious problems due to the constant influx of Salvadoran refugees seeking protection in Guatemala as a result of the civil war in that country, our reporters have been told.

The number of families coming in is reportedly high. Most of them are peasants fleeing from the raids that both the government and the leftist groups have been carrying out in the rural areas.

LOW TURNOUT REPORTED FOR ELECTIONS: VOTING PEACEFUL

PA210259 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0148 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Guatemala City, 20 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--An accentuated absenteeism characterized elections held today in 280 of Guatemala's smaller municipalities to elect city governments for the next 4 years.

After the 1,800 voting booths closed tonight, the elections tribunal reported that the elections had taken place peacefully, without incident.

Seven political parties--two progovernment, two known to be of the opposition and three recently registered parties--presented candidates, in what was basically an effort to gauge their electoral support with an eye toward the 1982 presidential elections.

The elections were witnessed by a special OAS committee of observers, made up of Rodolfo Piza Escalante, Costa Rican ambassador to the United Nations; Mario Lopez Escobar, Paraguayan ambassador to the OAS, and Humberto Vaca Gonzalez, director of the newspaper EL COMERCIO of Ecuador.

Electorial authorities qualified 1 million citizens to go to the polls today, but the first reports indicate that the number of voters was rather slight.

Leaders of the center rightist government coalition, made up of the Revolutionary Party and the Institutional Democratic Party (PR-PID) appeared certain of victory tonight, although the opposition, the anticommunist National Liberation Movement (MLN) and the Christian Democratic Party (DC) warned that they will resist any attempted fraud by the government parties designed to rob them of victory.

The electoral tribunal indicated that the results of the voting will be announced tomorrow.

HONDURAS

VOTING PROCEEDS CALMLY THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

PA210158 Paris AFP in Spanish 2216 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Apr (AFP)--In a predominantly calm atmosphere, thousands of Hondurans today formed lines at polling places in the capital and throughout the country to cast their votes to elect a national constituent assembly.

Hundreds of buses and trucks travelled through Tegucigalpa calmly carrying vogers to the polls, adorned with the banners of the parties that are participating in the elections: the National, Liberal and Innovation and Unity parties.

The army is discreetly on guard throughout the city, at bridges and highways, but as of a few hours before the polls closed, there had been only minor incidents in different parts of the country.

The most significant problems so far had been the 2-hour delay in opening some voting tables and the exclusion of thousands of citizens from the electoral lists.

In the small town of Santa Lucia alone, located some 20 km from Tegucigalpa, 1,300 persons were excluded because of alleged registration problems, according to Juan Ramon Garcia, president of the local electoral tribunal.

This morning those who had been excluded were forming lines outside the tribunal offices to have their status corrected or to receive certificates that they were not authorized to vote.

In Tegucigalpa the police had to intervene to disperse a group of demonstrators who were complaining to the local tribunal.

Voting is expected to close at 1700 [2400 GMT] and although in general everything was proceeding calmly, some observers do not rule out the possibility that there may be outbreaks of violence if those who were excluded continue to protest.

LIBERAL PARTY ANNOUNCES VICTORY; NO OFFICIAL FIGURES IN

PA210221 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0110 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The traditional Liberal Party of Honduras [PLH] announced tonight its resounding victory in the elections held today for a national constituent assembly. Carlos Montoya, candidate for deputy from the Francisco Morazan Department, seat of the country's capital, made the announcement.

"We have won. The people have given their support to the PLH and more than 80 percent of the people registered in the national census have cast their votes." According to him, more than 90,000 people voted in Tegucigalpa while in Francisco Morazan Department the PLH had a 2 to 1 lead over the traditional National Party of Honduras. He also said that "youths have given their support to the PLH because they have realized that this is the party of democratic and honest revolution."

Montoya added that "I am announcing this before any official figures are announced because we Liberals have done a great job mobilizing our copartisans and becoming more conscientious."

Regarding certain irregularities reported throughout the day, such as names missing from lists, omission of last names, confusions stemming from names common to both sexes and delayed delivery of polls, he commented that "those irregularities concerned procedure and affected all groups participating in the election equally."

According to him, the reports received from PLH leaders throughout the country are "more than optimistic and also indicate that everything has taken place normally."

To conclude, he said that the people will be given "the government they deserve. We Liberals want social justice within a climate of freedom, progress and respect. We will make a government of national conciliation."

NICARAGUA

JUNTA ANNOUNCES CHAMORRO'S RESIGNATION

PA192057 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The junta of the Government of National Reconstruction has announced the resignation of Companera Violeta Barrios de Chamorro for health reasons. The junta has said that her withdrawal is deeply regretted. The government junta and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Directorate will visit her home at noon to express their recognition of her work and to fraternally say good-bye to her.

In her resignation letter, Mrs Chamorro said she hopes that her decision will not affect the march of the revolutionary process. My health is really precarious. I feel very tired both physically and mentally, she said in her resignation.

Government junta member Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado made the announcement during a news conference. [begin Ramirez recording] Companera Violeta Barrios de Chamorro has presented her resignation as member of the National Reconstruction Government junta. A copy of the resignation has been issued to the newsmen. I will read the official document of the government junta referring to this resignation:

The National Reconstruction Government junta deeply regrets the resignation of Companera Violeta B. de Chamorro. Throughout these first months of the consolidation and advance of our revolutionary process, her presence and participation as a member of this government have enriched the decisions adopted and have strengthened the policy of deep changes which the Sandinist revolution has been carrying out.

Our people will not forget that in the difficult moments before the overthrow of the dictatorship when the imperialist maneuvers tried to prevent a Sandinist victory, Violeta's voice was one of those that firmly rose up to oppose those maneuvers. In this way, she confirmed her patriotism and her desire to participate in the construction of a truly free Nicaragua, principles for which her husband, Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, fought and died.

Since the end of last year, Violeta had expressed to us her desire to withdraw from the junta due to her increasing physical ailment and to her doctor's recommendation that she have a more restful life far from the exhausting tasks demanded by her participation in the government. Imposing on her abilities and taxing her physical condition, we asked her to stay in the junta. However, we see that her stay is now impossible and we must face the reality of her withdrawal.

Our revolution headed by the FSLN has greatly benefited from Violeta's participation in the government. We want the occasion of the announcement of her resignation to serve as an opportunity to express to her in the name of our people all our deep gratitude for her personal sacrifice and patriotic dedication.

[Signed] Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Moises Hassan Morales, Sergio Ramirez Mercada, Alfonso Robelo Callejas.

Government House, 19 April 1980, year of the literacy campaign. [end recording]

Chamorro's Explanation

PA192101 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Experts] In her resignation letter to the government junta, Mrs. Violeta Chamorro says: Friends and companeros, for health reasons it is becoming increasingly more difficult for me to continue working in the junta. My health is really precarious. I feel very tired both physically and mentally. I think everyone knows I have been ill for over 20 years and this illness is increasingly more annoying and painful. I have long pondered my decision to resign from the junta especially because I am aware of the commitment I made with the people when I agreed to become one of its members. I have tried to live up to that commitment to the full extent of my ability. Although I have lacked strength at times, I have tried over and over again to keep going.

In her letter, Mrs Chamorro hopes her decision will not be used by any sector to curb the march of our revolution. Her letter says: I don't want it to be construed that my decision was prompted by political reasons or anything like that. I am on the side of the process of change we have been promoting and the only thing that has moved me to make this decision is strictly health reasons. I don't want my decision to impinge on the course of the revolutionary process in any way, Mrs Chomorro's letter says. The letter can very well be considered as a restatement of her patriotic stand on the maintenance and consolidation of national unity to defend our revolution.

RUMORS CIRCULATE THAT ROBELO WILL RESIGN FROM JUNTA

PA202158 Paris AFP in Spanish 2057 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Managua, 20 Apr (AFP)--Persistent rumors that Alfonso Robelo will resign from his post in the government junta circulated here today while the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN), on which he is the top leader, called a meeting of its leading cadres.

Robelo could not be located today in Managua to comment on these rumors, according to which, in the next few hours, and only 1 day after Violeta Chamorro's resignation, he too would resign from his post.

BORGE DECLINES CARTER INVITATION TO VISIT U.S.

PA191529 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] It was learned this afternoon from government sources that the Carter administration has formally invited interior minister and revolutionary Commander Tomas Borge Martinez to visit Washington.

Borge's tour would extend to other states in that country.

However, Commander Borge declined the U.S. Government invitation, saying that his obligations in the country require his presence in the next few months.

In any case, the Carter administration left the invitation open for any time that the Nicaraguan revolutionary finds it convenient to make the visit.

Tomas Borge said during the Linea Directa program here on Radio Sandino last night, when he held a dialogue with his people, that the Sandinist leaders have the advantage of being able to visit any country in the world without being placed under suspicion. This was done by a high-level Nicaraguan Government delegation which visited socialist countries, including the USSR. The delegation had previously visited the United States and at present another Nicaraguan delegation is visiting countries on the African continent.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA--The new Nicaraguan ambassador to Colombia, Rodolfo Abanza Salinas, will shortly leave for Bogota to take over his new post. Abanza Salinas, a lawyer and newsman, is the owner of EL CENTROAMERICANO, a newspaper published in Leon. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Apr 80 PA]

GOVERNMENT 'INDEFINITELY' SUSPENDS AIRLIFT TO COSTA RICA

PA182209 Paris AFP in Spanish 2128 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Havana, 18 Apr (AFP)--The departure from Cuba of the refugees in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana is suspended as of today, following the decision of the Cuban authorities' to suspend indefinitely the air bridge between Havana and Costa Rica.

This measure forces all countries who were to receive the 10,800 Cuban refugees to organize direct flights between their capitals and Cuba. Some 732 dissidents had already left before the announced suspension. The last flight between Havana and Costa Rica permitted 189 persons to leave today for San Jose aboard a DC-3 [as received] of the Spanish Spantax airlines. The director of the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry, Carlos Francisco Aguilar Calderon, accompanied the refugees after being notified of the indefinite suspension of the flights.

According to the same source, there are no doubts that the air bridge has not been purely and simply called off. This measure could have been deduced from the criticism published today by the newspaper GRANMA. The mouthpiece of the Communist Party of Cuba criticized the creation of a transit center for the refugees in Costa Rica, stating its suspicion that it could be an arrangement between the Yankee imperialist and Costa Rica. There is no sense in creating a camp in Costa Rica. Perhaps its sole objective is demagogic and publicity-minded, GRANMA commented, raising the possibility that these persons may travel to any other country by direct flight.

The situation of the Cuban refugees who have been provided with the proper documents by the local authorities--passports, safe-conducts and departure permits--appears frozen at the moment, if one considers the current difficulties in Peruvian-Cuban relations. While Peru had announced last week its intention to receive 1,000 refugees, no plane has left from Lima for Havana due to a disagreement--according to the Peruvian Embassy in the Cuban capital--regarding the first list of refugees to leave for Lima.

Armando Lecaros, charge d'affaires of the Peruvian Foreign Ministry, told AFP that none of the members of the list of 600 Cubans presented by Havana were in the list of 500 persons which was prepared by Peru. That is how only six children appeared on the Cuban list, Lecaros indicated.

It was also learned from a well-informed source that Costa Rica accepted without counterproposals the list of priority passengers established by Cuba before the air bridge was suspended.

Flight to Spain on Schedule

PA202133 Paris AFP in Spanish 1727 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Havana, 20 Apr (AFP)--A diplomatic source reported here today that all of the 500 Cuban refugees who were accepted by the Spanish government would reportedly arrive in Madrid by Thursday.

Another group of 35 refugees at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana will leave on a regular Iberia flight at 1625 this afternoon following the departure of the first group of 54 persons who left on Thursday.

A special jumbo jet, expected to arrive here tomorrow, will take 360 refugees to Spain on Tuesday while the 51 remaining refugees will arrive in Spain aboard another Iberia plane on Thursday.

2,400 Remain at Embassy

PA181839 Paris AFP in English 1828 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Havana, April 18 (AFP)--A last group of about 2,400 Cubans today remained at the Peruvian Embassy here, apparently refusing to leave despite assurances by Cuban authorities that they will be given safe-conduct out of Cuba, Peruvian diplomats told AFP.

More than 8,000 people had already left the embassy, according to official Cuban figures (?reported) yesterday. Almost 700 of these had changed their minds about emigrating, Cuban authorities said.

Among those still at the embassy were 1,200 men, 600 women and 600 children, the diplomats said.

RADIO REPORTS MASS PARADE OUTSIDE PERUVIAN EMBASSY

PA202203 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] During an uninterrupted 13 hours, more than 1 million Cubans paraded on Saturday outside the Peruvian Embassy here in Havana during a great march of the combatant people carried out in rejection of the new imperialist maneuvers against our country and on the occasion of observing the 19th anniversary of our victory over the mercenary invasion of Playa Giron.

All along Fifth Avenue, one of the capital's most important streets, workers, peasants, students, military and people in general gave another example of firmness, courage and revolutionary discipline and formed a huge river of people loaded with slogans and banners.

Long live socialist Cuba; let the lumpen individuals and criminals leave; cowards, remember Giron; and long live the friendship between the peoples of Cuba and Peru were some of the slogans most often changed by the multitude which, since 0900 Cuban time on Saturday, has gone to Miramar neighborhood to reject the traitors in refuge in the Peruvian diplomatic mission. All day long, the national television broadcast the colossal demonstration of support for the socialist revolution, which had its greatest moments outside the Peruvian Embassy. The embassy is literally converted into a garbage dump because of the antisocial elements in refuge there.

The local news media agree in affirming that the march of the combative people constituted the most prolonged popular march ever staged to date in this country in defense of national dignity. This proves the growing support of our popular masses for the revolution and its leaders headed by Fidel Castro.

A particularly emotional moment during the grandiose event was the announcement about the presence among the demonstrators of Ernesto Guevara Lynch, father of Commander Ernesto Che Guevara, which caused thousands of people to shout the name of the heroic guerrilla.

Also present during the parade was the traditional Cuban conga, this time full of slogans which reflected the ingenuity of the people and their total rejection of all imperialist maneuvers to undermine the revolution's prestige.

In addition, it was reported that over 100,000 also gathered in the eastern city of Santiago to express support for the position of our government in the face of events at the Peruvian Embassy and to reject the military maneuvers which the United States will stage next month in the waters near the Cuban coasts.

Refugees Reported Calm

PA202204 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2301 GMT 19 Apr 80

[By Angel Antonio Garcia Munoz]

[Text] Havana, 19 Apr (EFE)--The situation inside the Peruvian Embassy is absolutely normal, according to statements made to EFE by Peruvian Charge d'Affaires Armando Lecaros.

The Peruvian minister counselor told EFE by telephone from inside the embassy that the refugees and diplomats "are calm."

While over half a million Cubans, by official count, have already filed past the embassy, Peruvian diplomats have continued to work normally inside. Armando Lecaros also said that the refugees are calm, after having been brought inside the two buildings in the embassy compound.

The women and children, the number of which the Peruvian charge d'affaires could not give exactly, have been placed in the building farthest away from Fifth Avenue, which has been used for the embassy's administrative offices.

Meanwhile, the men are in the building closest to Fifth Avenue which, up to the time of the massive entry of Cubans, had been used as the ambassador's residence.

"Therefore, no one is outside," Lecaros said, to avoid any kind of confrontation and to avoid exacerbating the spirits of the participants in the march, who are filing by a few meters from the embassy fences.

According to the Peruvian charge d'affaires in Havana, all due precautions have been taken "to see that absolutely nothing happens for which we can be reproached."

The refugees at the embassy have been without food for over 12 hours because Cuban authorities delivered milk for the children at 0430 (0830 GMT) this morning, but give no food for adults. However, Lecaros said that Peruvian officials inside the diplomatic mission have distributed some food, "from what was available in the embassy."

Regarding the exact number of refugees remaining in the embassy, Lecaros said that an exact number cannot be given at this time, since "the people in the buildings are somewhat crushed together, but there are approximately 1,800."

The Peruvian diplomats told EFE that once the march is concluded another count will be made to determine the number of persons who are still inside.

Cuban television camaras installed near the embassy have at times shown a group of eight refugees, mostly youths, on a terrace of the building closest to Fifth Avenue, who were smiling as the demonstrators passed by.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTER REPORTEDLY AMONG REFUGEES

PA191531 Paris AFP in Spanish 1504 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Madrid, 19 Apr (AFP)--Several of the 54 Cuban refugees who arrived here yesterday have indicated that the Cuban transportation minister is among those who have taken asylum in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana.

They also indicated that a high-ranking Cuban Culture Ministry official has infiltrated their group for the Cuban Government to keep an eye on their activities.

GRANMA ASSAILS ATTITUDE OF PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

PA192128 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The Cuban newspaper GRANMA criticizes the attitude of Peruvian Foreign Minister Arturo Garcia y Garcia, who received in Lima the first group of persons who had taken refuge in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana. He expressed his pleasure at receiving such select personages.

GRANMA notes that the fascist coup took place in Chile while Garcia y Garcia was Peruvian ambassador there and that he closed the embassy to his compatriots who were in danger of death, including a son of present President Francisco Morales Bermudez and a daughter of General Vargas Prieto.

GRANMA says that while a sea of bayonets and personnel carriers are directed against the Peruvian people to protect the scum received in the name of a vilified right of asylum, there is increasing evidence of the brazenness of the Peruvian foreign minister, who is nothing more than an employee of imperialism.

Condemns News Agencies' Reporting

PA181733 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The Cuban newspaper GRANMA today condemns the reactionary campaign that imperialist news media have unleashed regarding the events in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana to distort the actual events in that embassy. The newspaper adds that through its news agencies, imperialism is trying to present Cuba as a country which violates regional agreements and resolutions of international organizations. It is also trying to isolate the Cuban Government and people from the Latin America and Caribbean nations.

GRANMA stresses that the main characteristic of that campaign is the insistence on describing as refugees members of the group of antisocials who began to go into the Peruvian Embassy on 4 April and blaming the Cuban Government for those events.

One's attention is drawn to the fact, the paper adds, that a small group of individuals who represent less than a 10,000th of Cuba's total population have suddenly overnight become the main center of interest of large part of the capitalist press.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH ZIMBABWE

FL191647 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1636 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Cuban Vice President Juan Almeida Bosque has met in Salisbury with Simon Muzenda, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe. Almeida, who also is a member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, heads our country's official delegation to the festivities on the occasion of the independence of that country of southern Africa.

The meeting was conducted in a cordial and friendly atmosphere and in the course of the talks, the two sides agreed to establish diplomatic relations immediately.

Almeida and his delegation also met with Joshua Nkomo, home affairs minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe, adds a PRENSA LATINA report.